



ELECTION NEWS

A special informational bulletin on the implementation of Michigan's new "consolidated elections" legislation

Michigan Department of State - Terri Lynn Land, Secretary of State

Issue No. 30

February 1, 2006

In This Issue ...

- Voter Identification Card Reimbursement Grant Program Extended to March 15
- Materials Needed to Administer February 28 Election
- Reminder: Filing Deadline for May 2, 2006 Election Elapses on February 7
- Election Resources Available on Department's Website

Voter Identification Card Reimbursement Grant Program Extended to March 15

The deadline for submitting a claim form under the Voter Identification Card Reimbursement Grant Program has been extended to March 15, 2006. County, city and township clerks can use the program to recover the costs associated with the issuance of Voter ID cards to voters. Voter ID card mailings made between December 1, 2005 and February 28, 2006 are eligible for the reimbursement program.

As discussed in previous issues of *Election News*, the Michigan Department of State's Bureau of Elections is currently sponsoring a Voter Identification Card Reimbursement Grant Program. Complete information on the procedures for submitting a claim form under the reimbursement program was distributed to all county, city and township clerks on August 31, 2005. Election officials who wish to participate in the program must use the Voter ID cards which were returned as "undeliverable" by the U.S. Postal Service for voter registration list maintenance purposes. The procedures for satisfying this requirement are detailed in the instructional memo distributed in August.

It merits emphasis that clerks who have not mailed Voter ID cards to their voters since December 1, 2005 still have until February 28, 2006 to issue new Voter ID cards to their voters and participate in the reimbursement program.

The Voter Identification Card Reimbursement Grant Program is funded under the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA).

Questions regarding the Voter ID card reimbursement program can be directed to Steve Luck of the Michigan Department of State's Bureau of Elections. Phone: (517) 373-2540. Email: <Lucks@michigan.gov>.

Materials Needed to Administer February 28 Election

The following article outlines the election materials needed for the administration of the February 28 election which are available through the Department of State's Bureau of Elections.

It merits note that the Department of State's Bureau of Elections is *not* responsible for supplying election seals for the administration of the February 28 election. If election seals are needed for the election, they must be ordered through a commercial vendor. (The Bureau is responsible for supplying election seals for state and federal elections only.)

Election materials which can be ordered from the Bureau: The following materials can be ordered through the Michigan Department of State's Bureau of Elections. An order form is included with this newsletter for your convenience.

- A. Voter information posters:** A minimum of two copies of the poster must be placed on display in each polling place. The poster complies with the requirements provided under MCL 168.668a as amended under PA 96 of 2004. (The voter information poster prepared for the February 28 election can also be printed from the Bureau's website as explained below.)
- B. Audio version of voter information (cassette tape):** An audio version of the voter information must be available in each polling place. (The audio version of the voter information distributed for the 2004 election cycle can be used for the February 28 election.)
- C. Braille version of voter information:** A Braille version of the voter information poster must be available in each polling place. (The Braille voter information displays shipped in advance of the May 3, 2005 election can be used for the February 28 election.)

Election materials which are available on the Bureau's website: The following materials needed to administer the upcoming February 28 election can be accessed on the Department of State's website <www.michigan.gov/sos>. To locate the information, click on "Elections in Michigan"; on the Elections in Michigan page, click on "Information for Election Administrators." The referenced documents are listed under the "Election Resources" section in the middle of the page.

- A. Voter information posters:** As noted above, a minimum of two copies of the poster must be placed on display in each polling place. The voter information posters can be printed from the Bureau's website. (Legal sized paper is needed to print the poster.)
- B. Provisional balloting materials:** Every polling place must be supplied with the materials needed to administer Michigan's provisional balloting process. The following materials can

be accessed through the website: the “Four Step Procedure Form,” the “Notice to Voters Unable to Satisfy Identification Requirement and/or Residence Verification Requirement,” the “Procedure for Handling ‘Envelope’ Ballots Returned to Clerk’s Office,” and the “Provisional Ballot Report Form.”

- C. Identification requirement notice:** Every polling place must be supplied with the notice developed for voters subject to the federal identification requirement who are unable to satisfy the requirement when offering to vote.

Reminder: Filing Deadline for May 2, 2006 Election Elapses on February 7

Local school board candidates, community college trustee candidates and district library board candidates who wish to seek office at the May 2, 2006 election must file an Affidavit of Identity and a nominating petition no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2006. A \$100.00 nonrefundable filing fee may be filed by the candidate in lieu of a petition. The candidate withdrawal deadline elapses at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 10, 2006.

If the population of the district is less than 10,000, the candidate’s petition must contain a minimum of 6 signatures; no more than 20 signatures can be filed to cover the minimum signature requirement. If the population of the district is 10,000 or more, the candidate’s petition must contain minimum of 40 signatures; no more than 100 signatures can be filed to cover the minimum signature requirement.

A calendar of dates and deadlines associated with the May 2, 2006 election can be accessed through the Department’s website <www.michigan.gov/sos>.

Election Resources Available on Department’s Website

The following information can be accessed through the Department’s website:

- Michigan election law.
- February 28, 2006 election date calendar.
- Voter information poster for February 28, 2006 election.
- May 2, 2006 election date calendar.
- Date calendar for August 8, 2006 primary and November 7, 2006 general election.
- Filing requirements for state level partisan candidates who wish to seek election in 2006.
- Filing requirements for non-incumbent judicial candidates who wish to seek election in 2006.

- Provisional balloting materials. (“Four Step Procedure Form,” “Notice to Voters Unable to Satisfy Identification Requirement and/or Residence Verification Requirement,” “Procedure for Handling ‘Envelope’ Ballots Returned to Clerk’s Office,” and “Provisional Ballot Report Form.”)
- Federal ID requirement notice.



STATE OF MICHIGAN
TERRI LYNN LAND, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

Order Form
-- February 28 Election Materials --

Return form via mail or fax to Ruth Lee, Bureau of Elections, P.O. Box 20126, Lansing, Michigan 48901-0726. Fax: (517) 241-4785.

Jurisdiction name: _____

Date: _____ **Submitted by:** _____

Mailing address for supplies: _____

Item

Quantity

Voter information posters*: _____

**Voter information in audio format
(Cassette tape):** _____

Braille version of voter information: _____

Thank you!

* As an alternative, the voter information posters can be printed from the Bureau's website.